

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 DPW-01 DRC-01 /145 W
----- 050450

O P 090630Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6813

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

USLO PEKING PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 9148

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CB

SUBJECT: GKR'S OFFER OF UNCONDITIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF PRESS REPORTERS'
QUESTIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S ANSWERS FOLLOWING LONG BORET'S
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READING OF JULY 9 GKR DECLARATION ON SETTLEMENT OF KHMER

PROBLEM.

2. QUESTION: LAST YEAR'S PROPOSAL CONTAINED PRE-CONDITIONS. COULD THIS YEAR'S, WHICH IS WITHOUT CONDITIONS, BE CONSIDERED AS A SORT OF DIPLOMATIC TACTIC? ANSWER: OUR OFFER IS A SINCERE ONE AND IT IS SOLELY MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO STOP THE SUFFERING OF THE KHMER PEOPLE. IT IS NOT INSPIRED BY ANY OTHER OBJECTIVE THAN THAT.

3. QUESTION: HAVE THERE BEEN CONTACTS WITH THE OTHER SIDE PRIOR TO THIS DECLARATION? ANSWER: THERE HAVE BEEN NO CONTACTS WITH SIHANOUK OR WITH ANYONE ELSE ON THE OTHER SIDE, BUT WE HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE A POSITIVE RESPONSE BY THE OTHER SIDE. WE HOPE THEIR REACTION WILL NOT BE A DISAPPOINTING ONE.

4. QUESTION: WHAT IF THE OTHER SIDE PROPOSES CERTAIN CONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS? ANSWER: OUR NEW PROPOSAL HAS NO PRE-CONDITIONS WHATSOEVER. ANYONE WHO REFUSES THIS OFFER MUST BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTINUING THE CONFLICT BOTH BEFORE INTERNATIONAL OPINION AND THE KHMER PEOPLE.

5. QUESTION: HAS AN EFFORT BEEN MADE TO COMMUNICATE THIS OFFER TO THE OTHER SIDE? ANSWER: OUR OFFER IS BEING TRANSMITTED TO ALL COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

6. QUESTION: WILL THIS YEAR'S OFFER HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF BEING ACCEPTED THAN LAST YEAR'S? ANSWER: LAST YEAR'S DECLARATION CONTAINED SEVERAL CONDITIONS (WHICH LONG BORET LISTED). THIS YEAR'S OFFER HAS NO PRIOR CONDITIONS AND IT THEREFORE HAS A MUCH BETTER CHANCE OF SUCCESS.

7. QUESTION: SINCE YOU SAY THE MILITARY SITUATION IS BETTER FOR THE GOVERNMENT, WHY WOULD THE OTHER SIDE WANT TO NEGOTIATE NOW? ANSWER: ALL QUESTIONS ARE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION, AS THE STATEMENT SAID. IF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE OTHER SIDE IS THINKING ABOUT THE INTEREST OF THE KHMER PEOPLE THEY WILL NOT TAKE ACCOUNT ONLY OF THE PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION. YOU WILL RECALL THAT WHEN I MADE LAST YEAR'S DECLARATION THERE WERE ROCKETS FLYING OVERHEAD IN PHNOM PENH. THE SITUATION IS QUITE DIFFERENT TODAY. WE HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT IN OUR SEARCH FOR PEACE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THE MILITARY SITUATION IS FAVORABLE.

8. QUESTION: DOES THE GOVERNMENT STILL INSIST THAT
IT IS FIGHTING AGAINST A WAR OF AGGRESSION? ANSWER:
WE WILL STAND ON WHAT WE HAVE SAID IN THIS DELCARATION.

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9. QUESTION: HAVE THERE BEEN NEW DEVELOPMENTS
THAT LEAD YOU TI THINK THAT THIS NEW OFFER WILL BE

ACCEPTED (BY THE OTHER SIDE)? ANSWER: IT IS THE
DECLARATION ITSELF THAT IS THE NEW DEVELOPMENT.
THAT IS WHAT MAKES US BELIEVE THE CHANCES ARE BETTER
NOW THAN THEY WERE LAST YEAR.
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10. QUESTION: SINCE YOU SAY THE MILITARY SITUATION
IS BETTER NOW THAN IT WAS LAST YEAR, WHY HAVE YOU
LAUNCHED A NEW APPEAL NOW? ANSWER: FOR OUR PART, WE
DO NOT TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE MILITARY SITUATION. OUR
SOLE MOTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE PEACE. THIS IS A GENUINE
AND SINCERE OFFER. WE ARE TRYING TO END THE SUFFERING,
AND THAT IS ALL.

11. QUESTION: DOES THIS OFFER RESULT FROM AN AMERICAN
INITIATIVE? ANSWER: I HAVE HEARD THE SPECULATION
THAT IS HAS A CONNECTION WITH THE QUESTION OF THE UNGA
SEAT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC. BUT FOR US THE PRIMARY
QUESTION IS THE CONTINUING DEATHS OF OUR COMPATRIOTS.
THAT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY OTHER QUESTION. THE
UN SEAT IS A MATTER OF PRESTIGE AND HONOR FOR US, BUT
IT IS NOT OF THE SAME ORDER OF IMPORTANCE AS STOPPING
THE SUFFERING OF THE KHMER PEOPLE.

12. QUESTION: DO YOU EXPECT YOUR INITIATIVE TO HAVE
OTHER EFFECTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA? ANSWER:
IT COULD HAVE OTHER EFFECTS, BUT AS I SAID, OUR
PRIMARY MOTIVE IS TO STOP THE SUFFERING AND DEATHS.

13. QUESTION: HOW DO YOU EXPECT THE OTHER SIDE TO
REACT TO YOUR INITIATIVE? ANSWER: AS THE PRESIDENT'S
STATEMENT SAID, AND I REFER YOU TO IT, THE OTHER SIDE
DREAMS OF WINNING A MILITARY VICTORY. BUT IT IS OUR
VIEW THAT A MILITARY SOLUTION IS NOT POSSIBLE.

14. QUESTION: WHO WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO ACCEPT AS
THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OTHER SIDE? ANSWER: WE
AGREE TO NEGOTIATE WITH ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN MANDATED
TO SPEAK FOR THE OTHER SIDE.

15. QUESTION: WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO GO TO PEKING
(TO NEGOTIATE)? ANSWER: WE WILL GO ANYWHERE AND AT
ANYTIME THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES.

16. QUESTION: HAVE YOU RECEIVED INDICATIONS OF WHAT
THE PRE-CONDITIONS OF THE OTHER SIDE MIGHT BE? ANSWER:
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WE HAVE HAD NO COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE OTHER SIDE. AS
I HAVE SAID, OUR MOTIVE IN MAKING THIS DECLARATION
WAS ONLY OUR OWN SINCERE DESIRE FOR PEACE.

17. QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT THE REQUIREMENT THAT NORTH
VIETNAM WITHDRAW HER TROOPS FROM CAMBODIA?

ANSWER: WE WOULD WELCOME THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN
TROOPS. BUT THE PRINCIPLE WHICH UNDERLIES THIS OFFER
IS THAT THE OTHER SIDE MUST ACCEPT A DIALOGUE AMONG
KHMERS. ONCE THIS PRINCIPLE IS AGREED TO, PARTICULAR
PROBLEMS CAN THEN BE NEGOTIATED.

18. COMMENT: LONG BORET HANDLED HIMSELF AND AND THE
QUESTIONS VERY WELL, WITHOUT A FALSE STEP. ALTHOUGH
HE OFFERED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS BY ANGLOPHONE CORRES-
PONDENTS, NONE ACCEPTED HIS OFFER. MAJORITY OF QUESTIONS
WERE BY REGIONAL ORTF MAN WHO IN EFFECT CONDUCTED A
PUBLIC INTERVIEW OF THE PRIME MINISTER FOR FRENCH TV.
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Message Attributes

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